Indians in Burma

3212. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to the disturbances in Burma, a number of Indians have suffered a great deal; and

(b) what steps were taken by Government to evacuate Indian families from that country?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) A large section of the Burmese population, including persons of Indian origin, have been affected by the recent disturbances in Burma.

(b) No requests for evacuation have been received from Indian citizens resident in Burma. However, families of Indian Embassy officials were evacuated on the 17th September, 1988.

Selling of Western Technology by Pakistan to China

3213 SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government aware that Pakistan has helped China to acquire western technology by selling French Mirage jet fighters, U.S. Sidewinder air-to-air and two-anti-tank missiles;

(b) whether it is a fact that the Pakistan was not only buying but also selling western arms to China;

(c) if so, whether this decision of Pakistan has created a great imbalance of power in the Asian countries; and

(d) if so, what are the details in this regard and what steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) Government have no such information.

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Setting up of technology mission for the handicapped

3214. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are setting up a technology mission for the handicapped which would help in acquiring modern equipment and provide them job-oriented education;

(b) if so, by when the mission is likely to be set up and to what extent it would help the handicapped in using the technology; and

(c) whether Government have also decided to help the Tamil Nadu project for a survey of the handicapped in that State to evolve programmes for them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) The question of setting up of Science and Technology project in Mission Mode on Application of Technology for the Welfare and Rehabilitation of the Handicapped is under final stages of processing and an other in this regard is expected to be issued shortly.

(c) There is no proposal with the Central Government at present for survey of Handicapped in Tamil Nadu. However estimates of the number of handicapped in Tamil

Nadu are available in the basis of a national sample survey conducted during 1981, the International Year of Disabled Persons.

Deterioration in teaching standards of Government and Government aided schools in Delhi

3215. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the report which appeared in the *Statesman* dated the 5th October, 1988 regarding deterioration in the teaching performance of Government and Government aided schools in Delhi: and

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to examine the causes for deterioration in the teaching standards in the schools and the manner in which Government propose to bring about an overall improvement in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. However, as per Delhi Administration the pass percentage of Xth standard in annual examination results was 54.7 during 1986-87 and 80.1 during 1987-88 and that of XIIth standard was 75.6 during 1986-87 and 86.1 during 1987-88 and, thus, the performance of Government and Government Aided Schools is satisfactory. In order to further improve the quality of education in schools in Delhi, programmes like mass orientation programme for school teachers, Operation Blackboard, Vocational Education and Science Education schemes started by the Ministry are being implemented by Delhi Administration.

Sarda Ukil School of Art, New Delhi

3216. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Art School of the denowned artist Sarda Ukil, whose birh centenary was celebrated recently, possesses only one painting of the artist and that the art school has been completely neglected;

(b) if so, whether Government have made any exercise to identify the causes for the school's deterioration; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof, stating the steps contemplated by Government to improve the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) to (c) The Sarda Ukil School of Art, Delhi is a private institution receiving grant-in-aid from Delhi Administration. It has been ascertained that the school does not possess any panting of Sarda Ukil. An enquiry into the affairs of the School has shown that it is not functioning satisfactorily. The Delhi Administration is persuading the management of the School to make good the inadequacies.

Awarding of catering contract by Air India to a West German firm

3217. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a catering contract has been given by Air India to a West German firm;